3. The complex circumstances faced by developing countries in implementing effective national tobacco control strategies should be addressed in FCTC. The FCTC should include a mechanism to assist countries in which public health resources are limited and tobacco industry pressure is overwhelming in developing and implementing comprehensive national tobacco control programmes. Industrialized countries should support the establishment and strengthening of effective national tobacco control programmes in developing countries. Such programmes should include, but not be limited to, building sustainable capacity in national and international tobacco control strategies, including legislation, assisting with the treatment of tobacco dependence and assisting research into alternative livelihoods for tobacco workers and alternative uses of tobacco.

4. The tobacco industry be held publicly accountable at the national and international level through legislation, litigation and other means.

5. Given the impact of tobacco products on public health, the WHO should coordinate closely with regional and international trade organizations to ensure that tobacco control measures and trade liberalization measures are complementary.

6. Non-governmental organizations, including health professsional bodies, women, youth, consumer and environmental groups, academic institutions, private industry, media, hospitals and other members of civil society, should take an active role in tobacco control initiatives at the sub-national, national, regional and global levels.

(c) The Committee on Subordinate Legislation (Tenth Lok Sabha) in its 22nd Report had made several recommendations primarily intended to discourage the use of tobacco and tobacco products. The Government is examining these recommendations and the draft legislation is under consideration of the Government.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Increase in Cost of Oil Imports

1049. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of oil imports has gone up substantially during the last three years;

(b) if so, the value of imports and the quantity imported during the last five years;

(c) the percentage of value of oil imports to the total value of imports during the same period; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) The quantity and value of oil imports and its percentage to the total value of imports during the last five years are given below:—

(Qty. 000Tones, Value: Rs. Lakhs)

Year	Quantity	Value	Percentage of value Oil imports to total imports
1994-95	41300	17837.74	19.80
1995-96	47677	24094.85	19.60
1996-97	54171	34171.68	24.60
1997-98	54024	28329.07	18.62
1998-99	58588	24712.48	14.03

(d) In order to meet our domestic demand through domestic availability of petroleum products, Government has taken action for expansion of existing refining capacity and has approved setting up of new refineries in Public, Private and Joint Sectors. The country has become near self-sufficient in refinery capacity.

Trade Surplus

1050. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to achieve trade surplus instead of trade deficits in the next three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, how many more years we are expected to have trade deficits and how much deficit is expected for the next three years?